

Happiness Pony

A Monthly, Political, and Commercial PAPER :--Open to ALL Parties, but *Influenced* by None.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2013.

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**Useful Synonyms for “Hold Up
the Heavy Metal Hand Sign”**

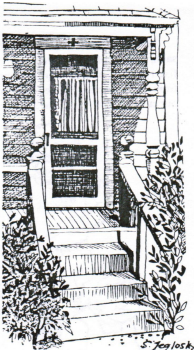
- Keep the Horns Up
- Keep the Irons Up
- Keep the Brians Up



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BOOKS, YIDDISH+ENGLISH


Not In The Same Breath by
Zackary Sholem Berger: 1/3 Yid-
dish, 1/3 English, 2/3 Pretty Pic-
tures. bit.ly/NITSBAamazon

**Cat In The Hat and Curious
George** in Yiddish. yiddishcat.com

MUGS, TIKI

Scallywag Ceramics. Exotic curi-
osities. scallywagceramics.com

Tales from Coffee Kingdom

Coffee Kingdom was at the corner of Richmond Ave and Pleasant Street. It closed in the early 2000s. A lot of the people who went there were very sheltered, solidly middle-class, white kids from the Tatnuck area. And that was their first exposure to people who were not just like them. Which has always been a problem in Worcester, sometimes it’s actually challenging to meet people who are not just like you. 

The Postman

Foremost among the many frustrating things about Kevin Costner’s masterpiece, *The Postman*, is that rather than make one of the many admirable, capable, and interesting characters the hero of the film, the film thinks its hero is the titular and ever-disappointing Postman. The most obvious candidate for alternative hero is Olivia Williams as Costner’s reluctant girlfriend. She initially approaches Costner because his sperm is not diseased; he manages to stay that way, but to clear no higher bar. His ineptitude gets her husband killed and Williams imprisoned. She takes this in stride, shooting one of her captors and escaping with Costner. They wait for better weather, trapped in a cabin, where Williams chops firewood, butchers a horse for food, and successfully gestates a child. Costner, meanwhile, lies in bed whining. She heroically takes on the additional challenge of motivating this bum to get on with life, throwing herself in a frigid river while pregnant and burning down the cabin before he will finally do something. As the movie approaches a climax, Williams suddenly becomes a dewey-eyed girlfriend so that Costner can be shoehorned into the role of hero who saves the day. With the most interesting character sidelined, the ending of the film, like the rest of it, is not quite what we’d hoped it would be. (Jen Burt)



Cloves

Apple pie, pumpkin pie, cider, gingerbread! Fall food just wouldn’t be the same without cloves. The cloves we eat are dried flower-buds from an evergreen which came from the Spice Islands. Historically, clove oil has been used as a dental anesthesia, good for numbing toothaches and recovering from dental work. It also is anti-bacterial, and, mixed with water, will kill mold.

But clove oil has another use: anæsthetizing fish. Put a few drops in a few gallons of water, and any fish in those gallons will go to sleep, knocked out but still breathing. Put it in clove-free water and it’ll be back to normal in a few hours. As with anæsthesia for people, add a few more drops, and you’ve put your fish painlessly into a more permanent sleep. This method is widely known as the most humane method for fish sedation.

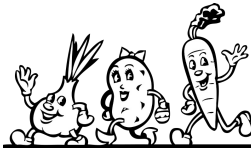
If you don’t have pies to flavor or fish to sedate, you can create a delicious-smelling ball called a Pomander by pushing cloves into an orange. Put the orange in your underwear drawer to add a seasonal scent. Or, use it as an ant repellent. (Holly Jones)

And that place was welcoming to all comers. In the mid-gos it would be the first time you would meet someone who was openly gay. It was the first time you would meet someone who was listening religiously to music you had never been exposed to before. It was the first time you would meet a guy wearing a skirt, or a kilt, or makeup for that matter.

At the time, Coffee Kingdom was the daytime venue for the nighttime Worcester Artist Group scene, one of the high water marks of the local music scene. The whole thing was very much open to all ages, and it was one of the first good music scenes to let younger people in, so it was the introduction for a lot of young people to live, local, and travelling music back in the gos.

I think Coffee Kingdom actually turned off more people than it turned on and brought in. Whenever someone mentions the Coffee Kingdom, the first thing that comes to mind is sitting there with friends. And it was a nonstop stream of people driving up Pleasant Street screaming “Freaks!” You’re constantly getting pummeled by the proverbial jocks. Once you were there, you felt like you were a part of something that the rest of the world couldn’t understand. But it was just a coffee shop. (AN)

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HAPPINESS PONY Income Statement September 2013

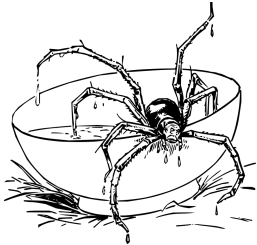
Revenue	
Donations from editors	\$47.50
Ad sales	\$0.00
Other donations	\$0.00

Expenses	
500 copies	\$42.50
Test copies	\$5.00

Net Income	\$0.00
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Happiness Pony is a free monthly newspaper published in Worcester, Massachusetts. This issue was edited by Shane Capra, Jen Burt, & Mike Benedetti. Masthead by Aiden Duffy from a 1775 issue of the *Massachusetts Spy*.

editor@happinesspony.com



AMUSEMENTS
OF THE LEARNED.

BY ISAAC D'ISRAELI
Among the Jesuits it was a standing rule of the order, that after an application to study for two hours, the mind of the student should be unbent by some relaxation, however trifling. When Petavius was employed in his *Dogmata Theologica*, a work of the most profound and extensive erudition, the great recreation of the learned father was, at the end of every second hour, to twirl his chair for five minutes. After protracted studies Spinoza would mix with the family-party where he lodged, and join in the most trivial conversations, or unbend his mind by setting spiders to fight each other; he observed their combats with so much interest, that he was often seized with immoderate fits of laughter.
(from *Curiosities of Literature*, 1791)

"Mothers News"
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Does Hydrogen Peroxide Stop the Burn from Hot Peppers?

Maybe a little. The theory, promulgated by *Cooks Illustrated*, is that swishing your mouth with hydrogen peroxide will prevent capsaicin (*right*), the burning chemical in hot peppers, from binding to pain receptors in your tongue. We tested this with Scotch Bonnet peppers, and mostly it just makes your saliva foam up, leaving the burning sensation intact. (*tested by Alex Westervelt and Mike Benedetti*)

Turtle Man

AN INTERVIEW WITH IVAN VEGA

Where did you get your snapping turtle?

Ten years ago, I was in a program, and my daughter gave me this turtle as a good luck charm.

Did it work?

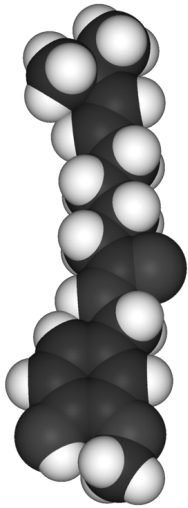
I guess so. I'm staying clean. The turtle's name is "Aurora." Like the program.

Do you have any advice for people looking to "get into recovery"?

You gotta go to detox, then keep going to further treatment. That's how it works.

How old is the turtle?

Ten years, almost. On February 23 she'll be ten years, like me.
(*Photo by Shane Capra, Worcester Common*)



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